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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/518,996	12/21/2004	Shaily Verma	PU020307	7008
24498	7590	01/18/2007	EXAMINER	
THOMSON LICENSING INC. PATENT OPERATIONS PO BOX 5312 PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312			MEHRPOUR, NAGHMEH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2617	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	01/18/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/518,996	VERMA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Naghmeh Mehrpour	2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/25/06.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. **Claims 1-18**, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Verma et al. (US Publication 2006/0050667 A1).

Regarding claims 1, 11, Bridgelall teaches a method/method for registering a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) as a cellular network routing area, comprising the steps of:

determining a location of a service request from a user within a cellular network (0021);

determining whether the location is in or near a WLAN access point (0022, 0026);

if at or near the WLAN access point, maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the request using the WLAN such that interworking between the WLAN and the cellular network is provided (0022).

Regarding claim 2, Bridgelall teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the request using the WLAN includes restricting radio signaling between a user and the cellular network while using the WLAN (0027).

Regarding claim 3, Bridgelall teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving a request for service for a routing area in a cellular network (0027).

Regarding claim 4, Bridgelall teaches a method/system wherein the WLAN is recognized as a routing area of the cellular network (0004, 0022).

Regarding claims 5, 14, Bridgelall teaches a method/system further comprising the step of setting a periodic routing area update timer value while in a WLAN coverage area to reduce signaling while a user is in the WLAN area (0034).

Regarding claim 6, Bridgelall teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing packet switched signaling connection through the PDP context when existing the WLAN (0034).

Regarding claims 7, 10, Bridgelall teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of :

controlling the loading of cellular cells by shifting user traffic service to WLANs (0004).

Regarding claim 8, Bridgelall teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the interworking between the cellular network and the WLAN is provided by: uniquely identifying the WLAN as a routing area of the cellular network; and once identified, setting a routing area update timer to reduce a number of routing area updates to the cellular network (0034).

Regarding claim 9, 15, Bridgelall teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of maintaining the PDP context includes maintaining the PDP context to reduce handoff delay while re-entering the UMTS network (0022).

Regarding claim 10, Bridgelall teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling cellular service providers to control the loading of cells by shifting users to WLANs by changing routing area identifiers of the users to that of a WLAN coverage area (0022).

Regarding claim 12, Bridgelall teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the means of maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context includes a preservation function provided in a mobile station. (0022).

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Regarding claim 13, Bridgelall teaches a system as recited in claim 11, further comprising a unique routing area identifier, which identifies the WLAN in the cellular network (0004, 0022).

Regarding claim 15, Bridgelall teaches a system as recited in claim 11, further comprising an interworking function for establishing and maintaining user services between the WLAN and the cellular network (0022).

Regarding claim 16, Bridgelall teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the cellular network includes a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS) (0026).

Regarding claim 17, Bridgelall teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the means for maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context further comprises a Radio Access Bearer (RAB) setup procedure for establishing interworking between the cellular network and the WLAN (0022).

Regarding claim 18, Bridgelall teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the cellular network learns if a user is in a WLAN coverage area via a routing area identifier (RAI) update message (0032).

Response to Arguments

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2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

3. **Any responses to this action should be mailed to:**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naghmeh Mehrpour whose telephone number is 571-272-7913. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00- 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah be reached (571) 272-7904.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NM

January 10, 2007

